This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A method of aligning an intracorneal inlay relative to a cornea for the purpose of correcting refractive error in an eye, comprising the steps of

marking at least one axis on the outer surface of the cornea,

separating a portion of the cornea, forming a first anterior facing surface and a second posterior facing surface,

positioning an inlay having at least one axis indicated on the surface thereof between the first and second surfaces, and

aligning the at least one axis on the inlay with the at least one axis on the surface of the cornea.

2. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein

the marking step includes marking at least five axes on the outer surface of the cornea.

3. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 2, wherein

the marking step includes marking the outer surface of the cornea with a marking tool having at least five axes thereon.

4. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 3, wherein

the marking step includes positioning the marking tool adjacent the outer surface of the cornea and marking a line along each of the five axes of the marking tool.

5. (Withdrawn) A method according to claims 1, wherein

the separating step includes separating a portion of the cornea to form a flap thereon, the flap attached to the cornea at an outer peripheral area thereof.

6. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of

pivoting the flap about the area attached to the cornea to expose the first anterior facing surface of the cornea.

7. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 6, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning an inlay having a removable, pliable sheet overlying the inlay indicating the at least one axis.

8. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 7, further comprising the steps of

marking the main optical axis of the eye on the outer surface of the cornea prior to marking the at least one axis on the surface of the cornea,

marking the main optical axis of the eye on the first anterior facing surface of the cornea, and

marking the first anterior facing surface of the cornea with at least five axes in about the same orientation as the markings on the surface of the cornea.

9. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 8, further comprising the steps of

repositioning the flap over the inlay,

aligning the markings on the outer surface of the eye and the marking on the first anterior facing surface with the marking on the removable, pliable sheet, and

removing the removable, pliable sheet overlying the inlay.

10. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 9, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning an inlay adapted to correct astigmatic error in the eye between the first and second surface.

11. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning a ring shaped inlay between the first and second surfaces.

12. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 11, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning a ring shaped inlay having at least two separable portions between the first and second surfaces.

13. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning an inlay adapted to correct astigmatic error in the eye between the first and second surface.

14. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning the inlay between the first and second surfaces using a holding tool.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of aligning an intracorneal inlay relative to a cornea for the purpose of correcting refractive error in an eye, comprising the steps of

separating a portion of the cornea, forming a first anterior facing surface and a second posterior facing surface,

marking at least one of the first and second surfaces with a first axis,

positioning an inlay having a second axis indicated on the surface thereof between the first and second surfaces, and

aligning the second axis with the first axis.

16. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of

marking at least four additional axes on at least one of the first and second surfaces of the cornea.

17. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 16, wherein

the marking step includes marking at least one of the first and second surfaces of the cornea with a marking tool having at least five axes thereon.

18. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 17, wherein

the marking step includes positioning the marking tool adjacent the first surface of the cornea and marking a line along each of the five axes of the marking tool.

19. (Withdrawn) A method according to claims 15, wherein

the separating step includes separating a portion of the cornea to form a flap thereon, the flap attached to an area of the cornea at the circumference thereof.

20. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of

pivoting the flap about the area attached to the cornea to expose the first anterior facing surface of the cornea.

21. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 20, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning an inlay having a removable, pliable sheet overlying the inlay indicating the second axis between the first and second surfaces.

22. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, further comprising the steps of

marking the main optical axis of the eye on the external surface of the cornea,

marking the external surface of the cornea with a third axis in about the same orientation as the markings on the first anterior surface, and

marking the main optical axis of the eye on at least one of the first and second surfaces of the cornea prior to marking the first axis on the at least one of the first and second surfaces of the cornea.

23. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 22, further comprising the steps of

repositioning the flap over the inlay,

aligning the first axis and the third axis with the second axis, and

removing the pliable sheet overlying the inlay.

24. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 23, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning an inlay adapted to correct astigmatic error in the eye between the first and second surfaces.

25. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 15, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning a ring shaped inlay between the first and second surfaces.

26. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 25, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning a ring shaped inlay having at least two separable portions between the first and second surfaces.

27. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 15, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning an inlay adapted to correct astigmatic error in the eye between the first and second surface.

28. (Currently Amended) An inlay for correcting the refractive error in the cornea of the eye, comprising:

a first surface for placement onto an exposed surface of the cornea,

a second surface opposite the first surface, and

a removable, pliable sheet of material directly adjacent overlying the second surface, said sheet overlying and conforming to the second surface and having markings thereon for accurately positioning the inlay on the exposed surface of the cornea.

29. (Original) An inlay according to claim 28, wherein

said markings on said removable sheet are at least ten radial axes extending from about the center of the inlay in a direction of the periphery of the inlay.

30. (Original) An inlay according to claim 28, wherein

said inlay is asymmetric for the purpose of correcting astigmatic error in the eye.

31. (Original) An inlay according to claim 28, wherein

said inlay is transparent, so that said markings can be aligned with markings on the surface of the exposed portion of the cornea.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) An inlay according to claim 28, wherein

said inlay is pliable and is adapted to be positioned between first and second surfaces of the cornea.

34. (Previously Presented) An inlay according to claim 33, wherein

said markings on said removable sheet include radial markings and are adapted to align the inlay with markings on at least one of said first and second surfaces of said cornea.

35. (Previously Presented) An inlay according to claim 28, wherein

said markings on said removable sheet are radial markings and are adapted to align with a positioning tool to facilitate proper positioning of the inlay on the exposed surface of the cornea.

36. (Currently Amended) An inlay according to claim 28, wherein

said inlay has markings thereon, said markings including include a mark on the center of the inlay and at least two radial axes extending from the center of the inlay in a direction toward the periphery of the inlay, and said markings are adapted to align with respective markings on the surface of the cornea.

37. (Currently Amended) An inlay for correcting refractive error in an eye, comprising:

a first surface and a second surface, at least one of said first and second surfaces having a removable marking markings thereon that indicates extend along at least one radial axis thereof, said inlay markings being adapted to align aligning with a corresponding marking on the surface of the cornea.

38. (Currently Amended) An inlay according to claim 37, wherein

said markings are disposed on a removable sheet of material directly overlying the second surface.

39. (Previously Presented) An inlay according to claim 38, wherein

said markings on said removable sheet include at least ten radial axes extending from about the center of the inlay in a direction of the periphery of the inlay.

40. (Previously Presented) An inlay according to claim 38, wherein

said markings on said removable sheet include radial markings and are adapted to align with a positioning tool to facilitate proper positioning of the inlay on the exposed surface of the cornea.

41. (Previously Presented) An inlay according to claim 37, wherein

said inlay is asymmetric for the purpose of correcting astigmatic error in the eye.

42. (Currently Amended) An inlay according to claim 37, wherein

said inlay is transparent, so that said markings on said inlay can be aligned with said corresponding marking markings on the surface of the cornea.

43. (Currently Amended) An inlay according to claim 37 38, wherein

said inlay and said removable sheet of material are is pliable and are is adapted to be positioned between first and second surfaces of the cornea.

44. (Previously Presented) An inlay according to claim 37, wherein said markings include a mark on the center of the inlay and at least two radial axes extending from the center of the inlay in a direction toward the periphery of the inlay, and said markings are adapted to align with respective markings on the surface of the cornea.